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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

**17 NOVEMBER 2017**

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#### **(U) CALIFORNIA**

##### **(U) Anaheim – Ecuadorian Man Sentenced for 1300lb Cocaine Load**

(U) A boat captain caught shuttling more than 1,370 pounds of cocaine in the Eastern Pacific was sentenced in San Diego federal court this week to 104 months in prison. Jesus Armando Portocarrero-Angulo of Ecuador was apprehended along with two crewmembers in October 2016 aboard a go-fast vessel, according to the US Attorney's Office. A maritime patrol aircraft was on routine patrol when the boat was spotted about 175 nautical miles northeast of Ecuador, and the occupants were seen throwing objects into the water, prosecutors said.

SOURCE: 16 November 2017, [San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

##### **(U) Compton – Thirty-Nine Arrested in Human Trafficking Sting, 13-Year-Old Girl Rescued**

(U) A human trafficking sting in Compton resulted in 39 arrests and the rescue of a 13-year-old girl, authorities said today. The girl was released to the care of the Department of Children and Family Services at the conclusion of the human trafficking operation, which was conducted on 15 November by the Los Angeles Regional Human Trafficking Task Force, along with deputies from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Compton Station.

SOURCE: 17 November 2017, [Long Beach Press-Telegram](#)

##### **(U) San Diego – Sixty Indicted in Auto Theft Ring**

(U) Sixty people have been indicted in an eight-month undercover auto theft operation in San Diego County, during which authorities recovered stolen cars, as well as drugs, guns, and body armor, local law enforcement officials announced yesterday. The undertaking, dubbed "Operation Kill Switch," turned up more than 70 stolen vehicles, including U-Haul trucks. The vehicles had a combined value of about \$1.1 million. From February to September, undercover officers bought stolen or illegal items from more than 90 people. A grand jury heard evidence and handed up indictments for 60 defendants, District Attorney Summer Stephan said at a news conference in San Diego.

SOURCE: 16 November 2017, [San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

#### **(U) NATIONAL**

##### **(U) District of Columbia – More Than 200 Arrested in US Crackdown on MS-13**

(U) Washington – More than 200 alleged members and associates of the violent Mara Salvatrucha gang, better known as MS-13, have been arrested in a crackdown across the United States, federal officials said yesterday. The two-month sweep was the second phase of Operation Raging Bull, which had previously netted 53 arrests in El Salvador, according to officials from the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency. MS-13 was founded in Los Angeles in the 1980s in part to protect immigrants fleeing civil war in El Salvador and has since grown into a sprawling cross-border criminal organization.

SOURCE: 16 November 2017, [Reuters](#)

##### **(U) District of Columbia – US Issues Travel Alert for Europe Over Terror Threat**

(U) Washington – The United States has issued a travel alert for Europe, warning US citizens of the

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"heightened risk of terrorist attacks" during the upcoming holiday season. The US State Department said in a statement yesterday that Americans should "exercise caution" at holiday festivals and events. "US citizens should always be alert to the possibility that terrorist sympathizers or self-radicalized extremists may conduct attacks with little or no warning," it said. The travel alert gave no indication that the US has specific intelligence about a plot to carry out attacks, but it noted that recent incidents in Europe have demonstrated that groups such as ISIS have the ability to plan and execute terrorist attacks throughout the continent. Last year's holiday season was marked by deadly attacks in Germany and Turkey.

SOURCE: 16 November 2017, [BNO News](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Australia – Australian Police Seize Huge Cocaine Haul Smuggled in a Yacht**

(U) Sydney – A huge cocaine haul hidden in the hull of a yacht has been seized off the east coast of Australia, police said yesterday. Some 1,543 pounds of the drug with an estimated street value of \$186 million were intercepted on 15 November about 62 miles north of Sydney, they said. Australian police worked with authorities in Tahiti, where the vessel passed through before entering Australian waters.

SOURCE: 15 November 2017, [Associated Foreign Press](#)

**(U) Iraq – Iraqi Forces Retake Last ISIS Held Town**

(U) Rawah – Iraqi forces backed by the US-led coalition today retook the last town in the country that was held by ISIS, more than three years after the militants stormed nearly a third of Iraq's territory, the Defense Ministry said. This morning, military units and local tribal fighters pushed into the western neighborhoods of Rawah in western Anbar province, and after just five hours of fighting they retook the town, according to a ministry's spokesman.

SOURCE: 17 November 2017, [CBS News](#)

**(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER****(U) Texas – CBP Seizes Nearly \$2.5 Million in Heroin and Marijuana in Three Consecutive Days**

(U) Pharr – US Customs and Border Protection's Office of Field Operations at the Pharr International Bridge cargo facility discovered alleged heroin and marijuana valued at \$2,465,404 within commercial trailers in three separate enforcement actions from 12 November to 14 November. CBP OFO seized the drugs and the cases remain under investigation by Homeland Security Investigations special agents.

SOURCE: 16 November 2017, [CBP Press Release](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.****(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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